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THIS WORLD will not under any circumstances hold itself responsible for the return or safe-keeping of any rejected manuscripts or pictures, of whatever character or value. No exceptions will be made to this rule with regard to either letters or illustrations. Nor will the editor enter into correspondence concerning unavailable manuscripts.

THE EVENING WORLD'S
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**(Evening Sun,
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Evening Telegram.**

There is April in the air of this Christmas.

Here's trusting that your Christmas stocking was well heeled.

"Times change." The change from hard times cannot come too soon.

Christmas still holds the royal place on the calendar of the world's children.

Motto of the Union Railway Company: If you can't borrow the street you must steal it.

If you owe the old year any debts you've got a week to pay them in. And no days of grace.

John L. Sullivan can sympathize with John V. McKane. He, too, has escaped a Christmas in jail.

The trolley is invading New York from the north, and the city seems powerless to repel the monster.

Dr. Depew says "the universal complaint all over Europe is bad business." Europe has our sincerest sympathy.

It is not yet certain that both the principals are entirely removed from the opposition to the Corbett-Mitchell fight.

"Seven tall trees" for "The Evening World's" Christmas children. And hosts of kind friends to see that they did not fall short.

These are times when "good will to man" can be very practically and properly backed up by the judicious use of good coin.

Dr. Depew got back just in time to give everybody a Merry Christmas and add a few new facts about that talk with the Pope.

Again the alarm is sounded for the Adirondack forests. Those woods must be protected, if the Hudson River is to be preserved.

Before another year goes around a complete signal and patrol wagon system should come around to New York's Police Department.

May the next Christmas dawn on the "Greater New York," for which the friends of municipal progress are even now so earnestly working.

Appropos of the "Huckleberry road" grab in One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street, "Do, do, do, Huckleberry do!" And the municipal bosses add the assurance that you needn't be careful what you do do.

It wasn't regarded as a good reorganization, evidently, that the city G. O. P. found in its stocking. A new plan is to be turned over for the new year. Most of the old bosses are still to help affairs go on.

Those indictments and arrests for election frauds form a heroic remedy for political disease in New York. Let the doses be administered without fear or favor. The city's franchise system will thus be purified and put in better condition than for years.

A North Dakota Congressman wants Congress to appropriate \$1,000,000 to extirpate the Russian thistle. The thorn of discontent is just now a rather more threatening evil than any thistle known to the sturdy agriculturists of the North-west, and its mischief is more widespread. Wise legislative dealing with this troublesome thing is the first and most important business expected of Congress. The people are not looking for speeches on thistles at this time.

As there seems to be no other way to reach the management of the Brooklyn trolley, it is suggested that the slaughter of children on the streets might not be prevented by the imposition of suitable damages. An appeal to the pocket may succeed where an appeal to humanity is wholly disregarded.

The startling statement is made by Secretary Charles D. Kellogg, of the Charity Organization Society, that the amount of ten million dollars is given away in private charity in ordinary years in New York, and the inevitable conclusion drawn from it is that in a year of such general distress as the present double that sum will scarcely be sufficient to provide relief for the poor of the city.

Twenty million dollars given out of the pockets of individuals voluntarily to feed and clothe and warm their suffering fellow-creatures is a heavy tax on benevolence. Even for so wealthy a city it is a great deal of money and it could only be secured through a liberality as noble as it is rare. It is proper that the city government should do something more than usual to meet the emergency and to lighten the burden of relief to the few by spreading it more generally among the people.

Mayor Gilroy, Comptroller Myers, Public Works Commissioner Daly and the Park Commissioners are united in the determination to keep the city streets open for the winter. It is simply pressing forward public improvements in order to supply work while it is most needed. If the obstinate Park Commissioners will abandon their attempt to exclude the people from the river side of the parkway, the construction of the drive can be started at once, and it is said will employ a thousand people. The new municipal building need not be delayed. Comptroller Myers says truthfully that at such a time as this delay in public work that can possibly be done in the winter is a sin.

It is gratifying to know that the Metropolitan Traction Company, which is to extend its cable tracks on Ninth and Lexington avenues, held a meeting last Saturday and resolved to begin the work at once, notwithstanding the extra cost of winter construction, in order to get in supplying employment to the idle. Mr. James S. Coleman, the contractor for the big dam, has also assured Mayor Gilroy of his willingness to employ as many men as possible this winter.

All these things are encouraging, as indicating an earnest desire on the part of people to aid in relieving the prevailing distress and on the part of the city to do all in its power within the extreme limit of the law and of the public policy, to supply work for the unemployed.

York is a great city—great in wealth and great in charity.

open and in full blast all Sunday night. The new Mayor will eventually have enough to do if he intends to make Brooklyn a law-abiding city.

THE COMING OF DEPEW.
Mr. Chauncey M. Depew has returned from Europe. He brings with him the history of the world on the other side of the Atlantic to date, personal reminiscences of many of the distinguished people of all countries, including the venerable Pope Leo and the equally venerable English Premier; an abundance of anecdotes and incidents for the "padding" of after-dinner speeches and some capital for the election of 1896. He also brings back vigorous health, high spirits, and that gushing bonhomie for which our great talk-show orator has always been famous.

Mr. Depew found the laboring people of Europe as poor and the railroads of Europe much poorer than our own. Yet in his flying trip he got around quick enough to "Mr. Paris and Home, and Naples, including Vesuvius and Florence, and Pisa, with its leaning tower, and Genoa and Nice, although he did not have time to look in on King Humbert, the election of 1896. He also brings back vigorous health, high spirits, and that gushing bonhomie for which our great talk-show orator has always been famous.

It is gratifying to know that after all his roving with royalty and his hobnobbing with nobility, Mr. Depew returns to the United States as good a republican as when he left us, and ready to resume his hard work on his railroads and his activity in his political organization with as much energy and effectiveness as ever. As soon as he has digested his European tour, he will be ready to take off his coat and become again the untiring business man and the vigilant politician; to overhaul the management of the great Vanderbilt lines, and to keep the trading Raymond, the plotting Simmonds and the wicked Gilman in order.

So welcome home, Mr. Depew, and all the compliments of the season to you on your return.

FRENCH VACCINATIONS.
Vaccinations are the lum sum thing in Paris now. A swell lady invites her friends to her house to meet a doctor and a cow, and they all have a good time on a little virus and go home with arms and other members of the body neatly engraved by the gentleman who wields the scalpel.

They must be delightful affairs. We cannot imagine any pleasanter form of entertaining friends than asking them to a reception of vaccine virus. Next to being vaccinated, the next best thing is to help under the yzyotic sun so funny and helping to vaccinate somebody else. It is so jolly to see her shy and kick about baring her arm and so wildly hilarious to hear her holler as the knife goes into her arm or elsewhere.

A vaccination must be enjoyable on the same basis that a man chasing his hat down a windy street is a cause of unrestrained amusement among those who see him, but whose hats are fastened on their heads. Still, we don't see how a lady can attend very many of them, because a little vaccination goes a great ways, and the same arm is about all that a lady can sustain in society without letting go of a little of her dignity.

EDITORIAL BY-THES-WAYS.
And a Plankless Stop to His Organs.
After considerable delay, Mr. McKim has succeeded in adjusting a stop to his over-enthusiastic friends—Washington Post.

Let You Be Won't.
Stars, Bernhard is to publish two volumes of memoirs. Here is a chance for any good man making up a Sunday-school library to pass by on the other side—Minneapolis Journal.

Nothing Else Could Be Expected.
One of the Meyer Jones in New York has a violent income, unable to stand the mental strain. What else could be expected from a jury system that habitually accepts only the ignorant or the weak-minded—Kansas City Star.

A Sound of Grinding.
That low, grinding noise proceeding from the vicinity of Dearborn and Madison streets is caused by the manufacturers of a new hat beginning "Pratt! Pratt! Pratt!" The noise will come within a few hours—Chicago Herald.

Might Have Got to the "Tip" Top.
Chicago's new Mayor was a carpenter in Pullman's employ twelve years ago. He has done well, but just think what he might have risen to had he been a Pullman porter—Atlanta Journal.

A Phaser for Buffalo Bill.
Buffalo Bill is reaching for the Governorship of Nebraska. He is an old man and has a good show, but what is to become of his famous title if elected? "Gov. Buffalo Bill" would be wild even to the society West, while nobody in Nebraska would recognize him as "Gov. Cody"—Cincinnati Times-Star.

WORLDLINGS.
There are in India fully 21,000,000 believers in the old religion of the Brahmins.

According to a French statistician, the average man has walked 12,000 miles by the time he reaches fifty, and even that of meat and drink and the water and the wind and the mud and the three feet deep with a surface of 80 square feet.

There can be no doubt of the popularity of the paragon, as an article of diet when it is considered that 40,000,000 bushels of this vegetable were raised in the United States last year.

There were 1,250 drownings from Uncle Sam's Navy last year.

It is considered to have the most acute vision of any animal.

JOINS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Rochester Post-Express Changes Its News Service for the Better.

The Post-Express, of Rochester, N. Y., which has been receiving service from the New York State Press Association, an adjunct of the United Press, to-day severed its relations with that organization and signed a ninety-year contract with the Associated Press.

Not Too Risky.
"Can I change my occupation under the terms of the insurance?"
"What was your job?"
"A football player."
"What?"
"I become a Brazilian insurance!"
"Yes."

A Few Seasons Hence.
Mrs. Shopin—Have you ice cream forks?
Jeweller—Just sold the last, madam; but I can show you some very beautiful lemonade knives.

Fastidious Fido.
Timed Passenger—Does your dog bite, madam?
Madam—No, unless he's hungry. But he isn't afraid, he's a thoroughly educated dog.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

To All Contributors to the Christmas-Tree Fund.

And Greeting to the Winners of the Best Outfits.

"Baby Costello," Otherwise Unknown, One of the Fortunes.

The Prize-Letter Contest is settled. The names of the winners are "Baby Costello," otherwise known as Julia Donnelly, 41 West Fifty-third street, and Alfred Curtis, of San Francisco, Cal., a native of credit to New York City.

The judges awarded one child's complete outfit to Baby Costello, to be selected by her baby's secretary.

One girl's complete outfit to Julia Donnelly, to be selected by her little sister from Best & Co.'s Lilliputian Bazaar, and

One full suit of clothes to Alfred Curtis or his representative, to be delivered or forwarded by the editor.

If Baby Costello will send in her baby's address and name of her baby's secretary, we will make known his place of residence, orders will be mailed at once, and Best & Co. will honor them on presentation. Brave and lucky Julia Donnelly will be in receipt of a very important communication about breakfast time—tomorrow, her baby.

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